

Department of Mental Health
Clarification of the DD System Redesign Workgroup
December 2013

As many of you may know the Department of Mental Health has established a workgroup consisting of representatives from Missouri Association of County Developmental Disabilities Services (MACDDS), Missouri Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (MARF), Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council, consumers, and the Department of Mental Health. The workgroup is meeting to explore the current Division of Developmental Disabilities Regional Office system to determine if some roles and responsibilities can be transitioned to local Senate Bill 40 Boards or other local entities which may include multi-county or regional entities. This group is just beginning its work to evaluate which functions make sense to be performed at a local level and which functions would be better served staying with the Regional Office.

Ultimately we want to design and implement an efficient, flexible, locally based system so people with developmental disabilities receive the supports they need when they need them. As this process moves forward we will continue to keep you informed, and we look forward to working with you to continue improving the service delivery system that best serves the needs of individuals and families.

We understand that many people have questions and concerns about what specifically this group is doing. Hopefully the information below will clarify many of these concerns.

1. *What Regional Office functions are being discussed by the System Redesign Workgroup?*

All functions of the Regional Offices are currently being discussed in an effort to clearly identify the best model moving forward. Currently, the following functions which already exist in the Department of Mental Health system have been identified as core functions that could be moved to a local entity:

- Intake/eligibility,
- Support coordination,
- Priority of Need or Utilization Review
- Budget Allocation/Authority

Additionally, it is important to note that the following existing functions have been identified as key items that the Department of Mental Health will retain:

- Quality Enhancement
- Home and Community Based Waiver Assurances
- Abuse and Neglect Investigations
- Provider Contracting/Provider Relations
- Statewide Training and Certification

- Regional Transfers
- Mortality Reviews
- Habilitation Center Transitions

However, please recognize that discussion of all of these functions as well as all others will likely continue until the completion of the work by the System Redesign Workgroup.

2. *Will all county boards be required to participate?*

No, this is voluntary and only being explored in parts of the state where there is interest.

3. *What happens in areas of the State where no Senate Bill 40 Boards, Co-ops or other administrative entities are interested?*

Regional Offices will continue to provide these functions. Individuals, families and other stakeholders will experience no change.

4. *Will areas of the state not currently interested have an opportunity at a later date?*

Yes, the Division will always be interested in exploring local options with Senate Bill 40 Boards, Co-ops or other administrative entities. If an entity becomes interested at a later date they should contact the Division to begin discussions.

5. *Will Regional Offices be closing?*

No Regional Offices will be closing. All Regional Offices will continue to have an important role in the DD service delivery system.

6. *Will funding be transferred to other parts to support these local agreements?*

No, the funding and resources available to support these local agreements will be available to local entities based on the amount of local funding from the appropriate Regional Office. The amount of funding available will be generated by the Regional Office being able to discontinue providing some of the services listed in Question #1.

The budget allocation will include funding for individuals receiving services and will be based on historical expenditure data. No funding will be moved, transferred or reallocated to other parts

of the state. The funding will stay with the individual receiving services and only be transferred to another part of the state if the individual decides to move.

This document and other information including minutes from workgroup meetings will be posted on the DMH website at <http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/DDSystemWorkgroup.htm>